

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-10, 13-23 and 27-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended and claims 27 and 28 are added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 13-23 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Rodriguez in the July 14 personal interview. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Kapon et al. (EP 1028505); claims 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kapon; claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kapon in view of Ostergaard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,683,898); and claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kapon in view of Shieh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,293,392). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the personal interview, Kapon fails to disclose or suggest a surface emitting semiconductor laser equipped with a resonator and that includes a first reflection layer in which a single light emitting region is formed, as recited in independent claim 1.

Kapon teaches a vertical cavity surface emitting laser device that includes a plurality of VCSEL elements arranged around a common substrate, each VCSEL element comprising first mirror means and second mirror means, each having a predefined reflectivity at a predetermined wavelength, for forming an optical resonator for said wavelength, and a laser active region disposed between the first and second mirror means (Abstract). As such, Kapon fails to disclose or suggest a single light emitting region. Accordingly, Kapon fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of independent claim 1. As such, independent claim 1, and its dependent

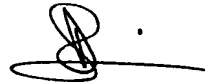
claims, are patentable over Kapon. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Moreover, claims 27 and 28, at least for their dependence on allowable claims 1 and 2 are also allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-10, 13-23 and 27-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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